

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0030] FIG. 3 is a block diagram of an optical interleaver arrangement 300 constructed in accordance with the present invention for converting an optical channel scheme having 25 GHz spacing to an optical channel scheme having 50 GHz spacing and twice the passband of the original optical channel scheme. In general, interleaver arrangement 300 includes interleaver 310 to convert from one set of 25 GHz spaced channels to two sets of 50 GHz spaced channels. Interleaver arrangement 300 also includes two interleavers 312 and 314, each of which convert one of the sets of 50 GHz spaced channels to two sets of 100 GHz spaced channels. Individual interleavers 310, 312 and ~~31~~ 314 may be, for example, any conventional interleavers based on the aforementioned technologies. Interleaver arrangement 300 allows devices designed for 25 GHz spaced channels to interact with devices or networks designed for 50 GHz spaced channels.